

Message Text

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ORIGIN DLOS-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PCH-06 /012 R

66615

DRAFTED BY D/LOS:OESKIN

APPROVED BY D/LOS:JOHN NORTON MOORE

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R 051911Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS

USINT BAGHDAD BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY SUVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 077752

FOL REPEAT GENEVA 2316 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2316

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: CLASSIFIED LOS WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR D/LOS, ENDING APRIL 2, 197

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FROM USDEL LOS

1. SUMMARY: FOCUS OF WEEK'S EFFORTS WERE IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS IN COMMITTEE I ON JOINT VENTURES, AND IN THE EVENSEN GROUP WHICH CONTINUED DRAFTING ON FISHERIES. CONFERENCE OTHERWISE IS ESSENTIALLY MARKING TIME AND MOOD IS DIFFICULT TO ASSESS. RECEPTION GIVEN TO CIRCULATION OF EVENSEN ARTICLES IN C-II NEXT WEEK SHOULD BE KEY TO PACE OF REMAINING WEEKS. CONFERENCE PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE HELD
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FIRST MEETING OF HIS NEGOTIATING GROUP CONSISTING OF

CHAIRMEN OF REGIONAL GROUPS (INCLUDING US) AND OF INFORMAL GROUPS. DURING MEETING, GALINDO-POHL EXPRESSED OPTIMISM ON PRODUCING A COMMITTEE II PACKAGE. IN COMMITTEE II SESSIONS, DISCUSSIONS OF MAIN TRENDS PAPER CONTINUED WITH PROGRESS ON SOME TECHNICAL MATTERS SUCH AS BASELINES. IN COMMITTEE III, AS IN COMMITTEE II, MAIN ISSUES ARE BEING DISCUSSED IN EVENSEN GROUP WHICH IS EXPECTED TO TAKE UP MARINE POLLUTION ARTICLES NEXT WEEK. END SUMMARY.

2. COMMITTEE I.

(A) C-I HAS HELD NUMEROUS MEETINGS SINCE LAST SUMMARY REPORT IN THE FORM OF PRIVATE CONSULTATIVE GROUPS AND IN THE FORMAL WORKING GROUP. DISCUSSIONS HAVE INCREASINGLY FOCUSED ON OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF JOINT VENTURE SYSTEM. LDC WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON THIS BASIS FOLLOWING CONFRONTATION TONE OF LAST WEEK'S WG DEBATE IS ENCOURAGING. POSSIBILITY OF PARALLEL SYSTEM THAT INCLUDES JOINT VENTURES AS WELL AS DIRECT EXPLOITATION BY AUTHORITY IN RESERVED AREAS IS FREQUENTLY RAISED BY MODERATE LDC'S WHO AT CARACAS SESSION STRICTLY ADHERED TO GROUP OF 77 POSITION.

(B) WITH MINOR EXCEPTIONS, CONSULTATIONS HAVE BEEN RESTRICTED TO BASIC CONDITIONS AND WG CHAIRMAN (PINTO) IS EXPECTED TO CIRCULATE NEW PERSONAL DRAFT IN NEXT FEW DAYS WHICH HE IS CHARACTERIZING AS COMPROMISE BASIC CONDITIONS. REGULAR CONSULTATIONS AMONG SMALL NUMBER OF KEY DELS IN WHICH US PARTICIPATED LAST WEEK HAVE NOW BEEN EXPANDED TO INCLUDE AROUND 30 DELS. WHILE NEW GROUP IS MORE UNWIELDY, BELIEVE IT OFFERS BETTER OPPORTUNITY FOR DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN US AND MODERATE LDC'S IN NEGOTIATING SITUATION. ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE FOR CONTINUATION OF SMALLER GROUP DISCUSSION CONSISTING OF C-I LEADERSHIP.

(C) MEETING OF GROUP OF FIVE REVEALED BASIC C-I NEGOTIATING POSITIONS WHICH GENERALLY TRACK OUR OWN, ALTHOUGH JAPANESE APPEAR TO HAVE GREATER FLEXIBILITY AND SOVIETS CONTINUE TO BELIEVE CLASSICAL PARALLEL CONFIDENTIAL

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SYSTEM BEST PROTECTS ACCESS FOR SOCIALIST STATES. KEY DIFFICULTY APPEARS TO BE TIMEING PERSPECTIVE OF OTHER FOUR DELS WHO SEEM RESIGNED TO EXTENSION OF CONFERENCE BEYOND EARLY 1976. ANTICIPATE THIS MAY RESULT IN SOME FRICTION IF NEGOTIATION BEGINS TO MOVE QUICKLY ON BASIC CONDITIONS AND US PLAYS LEADERSHIP ROLE. EM COMMITTEE II.

(A) SMALL GROUP CONSISTING OF REPS FROM US, CANADA,

UK, NICARAGUA, BANGLADESH, AND NORWAY CONSIDERED CONSOLIDATED SINGLE TEXT ON BASELINES. US PREPARED THESE PROVISIONS OF 4-20 OF MAIN TRENDS (PAPER SENT SEPTEL). THIS INFORMAL CONSOLIDATED TEXT EXPECTED TO BE DISCUSSED IN NEXT FEW DAYS BY LARGER WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED IN C-II TO CONSIDER BASELINES. CONSOLIDATED ARTICLES ARE FIRST TO EMERGE FROM WORKING GROUP IN C-II AND HOPEFULLY WILL SET PRECEDENT FOR WORK METHOD THAT WILL FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT OF AGREED TEXTS. US INITIATIVE IN PREPARING PAPERS WAS WELCOMED, AND INDEED WHEN CHAIRMAN HAD TO LEAVE FOR ANOTHER MEETING, DEPARTMENT OF STATE GEOGRAPHER (HODGSON) WAS SELECTED CHAIRMAN OF GROUP BY ACCLAMATION. PAPER SHOULD BE PRESENTED AS COLLECTIVE SUB-WORKING GROUP PRODUCT. NEW PROVISION 5 IN TEXT IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE BANGLADESH, AND TO REPLACE OBJECTIONABLE BANGLADESH PROPOSAL IN PROVISION 9 OF MAIN TRENDS PAPER.

(B) US CONTINUED TO HOLD SERIES OF BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH VARIOUS DELEGATIONS TO ATTEMPT TO REDUCE DIFFERENCES ON STRAITS, FISHERIES, AND CONTINENTAL MARGIN ISSUES.

(C) EVENSEN GROUP CONTINUED DAILY SESSIONS, AND ON 2 APRIL COMPLETED DEBATE ON FISHERIES ARTICLES AS WELL AS ARTICLE 18 (RIGHTS OF LANDLOCKED AND GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED STATES). REVISED TEXTS OF FISHERIES ARTICLES HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED BUT NOT DISCUSSED. REVISED INTRODUCTORY ARTICLES ON ECONOMIC ZONE (TRANSMITTED SEPTEL) HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED AND DISCUSSION BEGUN. RESULTS OF FIRST DAY SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTING WITH PERU ATTEMPTING TO MODIFY ARTICLE TO BALANCE OF ARTICLES. DISCUSSION WILL CONTINUE. EVENSEN OBVIOUSLY ATTEMPTING TO MOVE NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE AND IS UNDER MOUNTING PRESSURE TO SURFACE WORK PRODUCT

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AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. PROBLEM AREAS WOULD APPEAR TO BE: 1) WHETHER DELICATE BALANCE IN ARTICLES 1-3 CAN BE RETAINED; 2) HOW BEST TO PRESENT ARTICLES TO CONFERENCE AS A WHOLE IN ORDER TO AVOID REOPENING CONTENTIOUS ISSUES; AND 3) ABILITY TO TIME A SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION WHICH WILL SATISFY DESIRES OF LANDLOCKED AND GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED STATE BLOC.

4. COMMITTEE III.

(A) POLLUTION. EVENSEN GROUP WILL LIKELY TURN TO POLLUTION ON MONDAY, APRIL 7. USDEL REDRAFTED EVENSEN POLLUTION TEXT TO SET FORTH ALTERNATIVES ON VESSELS AND DOUBLE STANDARD MORE FAIRLY. REDRAFTED TEXT GIVEN TO EVENSEN ON APRIL 2, BUT AS YET THERE

IS NO INDICATION OF HIS WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT CHANGES.
US TEAM MET WITH SOVIETS APRIL 2 TO DISCUSS VESSEL
SOURCE POLLUTION IN VULNERABLE AREAS. SOVIETS
INDICATE SOME FLEXIBILITY ON DEFINITION BUT EX-
PRESSED STRONG CONCERNS REGARDING INTERNATIONAL REVIEW
OF SOVIET REGULATIONS FOR ARCTIC. US ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSAL HAS BEEN DEFERRED TO ALLOW
SOVIETS TIME TO CONSIDER IT. PRIVATE REACTIONS OF
OTHER DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING INDIA, EGYPT, SINGAPORE
CANADA, AND AUSTRALIA, HAVE BEEN GENERALLY FAVORABLE.
CONFIDENTIAL SMALL NEGOTIATING GROUP CHAIRED BY
CHAIRMAN VALLARTA MET APRIL 1 TO CONSIDER LANDBASED
SOURCES. DISCUSSION INCONCLUSIVE IN TERMS OF TEXT,
BUT CONSENSUS EMERGED THAT THERE SHOULD BE OBLIGATION
TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL REGULATIONS, TAKE OTHER NECESSARY
MEASURES AND TAKE INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS INTO ACCOUNT.

(B) MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. SOVIETS HAVE
INFORMED US THAT THEY HAVE MODIFIED THEIR POSITION
ON CONSENT FOR CONTINENTAL SHELF RESEARCH. THUS,
SHELF RESEARCH WOULD BE TREATED LIKE RESEARCH IN
WATER COLUMN, I.E., RESEARCH DIRECTLY RELATED TO
EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION OF RESOURCES WOULD BE
SUBJECT TO CONSENT WHILE RESEARCH NOT DIRECTLY
RELATED TO RESOURCES WOULD BE SUBJECT TO AN OBLIGATION
REGIME SIMILAR TO OUR PROPOSAL. CANADA HAS
INFORMALLY CIRCULATED A PROPOSAL ESSENTIALLY PROVIDING
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THAT CONSENT SHALL NOT NORMALLY BE WITHHELD. AFTER
WE REACTED NEGATIVELY TO THEIR PROPOSAL, CANADA
ASKED IF A PROVISION WOULD BE HELPFUL THAT PROVIDED
THAT CONSENT WOULD BE PRESUMED IF NO RESPONSE WERE
RECEIVED WITHIN A STATED PERIOD. TANZANIA ALSO
RAISED THIS IDEA OF IMPLIED CONSENT. IN ADDITION,
TANZANIA INDICATED THAT CONSENT SHOULD BE REQUIRED
FOR SHELF RESEARCH AND THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE TO
ELABORATE A MORE LIBERAL REGIME FOR THE WATER COLUMN.
GROUP 77 CONTINUES TO PRESSURE LANDLOCKED AND
GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED STATES TO WITHDRAW
SUPPORT FROM L.19. PRESSURE IS BEING RESISTED BY
SOME STATES. DAL
ME

UNQUOTE
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NOTE BY OCT: POUCHED.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE077752
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: OESKIN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750119-0442
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750477/aaaacswr.tel
Line Count: 220
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CLASSIFIED LOS WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR D/LOS, ENDING APRIL 2, 197 5
TAGS: PLOS
To: ALL POSTS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006